DEFENSIBLE SPACE, 2005

Recommended by BOF for 45-Day Notice of Public Hearing on September 15, 2005

Adopt 14 CCR, Division 1.5, Chapter 7 Fire Protection, Subchapter 3.,

Article 3. Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings and Structures

Defensible Space. § 1299

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§ 1299. Defensible Space.

The intent of this regulation is to provide guidance for implementing the defensible space criteria of Public Resources Code

4291(a) and (b) and minimize the spread of fire within a 100 foot zone around a building or structure.

- (a) A person that owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material, and is within State Responsibility Area, shall do the following:
- (1) Within 30 feet from each building or structure maintain a firebreak by removing and clearing away all flammable vegetation and other combustible growth pursuant to PRC § 4291(a).
- (2) Within the 30 feet to 100 feet zone (Reduced Fuel Zone) from each building or structure(or to the property line, whichever is nearer to the structure), provide a fuelbreak by disrupting the vertical and/or horizontal continuity of flammable and combustible vegetation with the goal of reducing fire intensity,

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inhibiting fire in the crowns of trees, reducing the rate of fire spread, and providing a safer environment for firefighters to suppress wildfire. (b) Any vegetative fuels identified as a fire hazard by the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction, shall be removed or modified provided it is required by subsection (a)(1) & (a)(2). (c) Within the intent of the regulations, the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction may approve alternative practices which provide for the same practical effects as the stated quidelines. (d) Guidance for implementation of this regulation shall be consistent with procedures contained in the publication: "General Guidelines to Implement Performance Based Defensible Space Regulations under PRC 4291" as adopted by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection on XXXXX XX, 200X. Note: Authority cited: Section 4102, 4291, 4125-4128.5, Public Resource Code. Reference: 4291, Public Resource Code.

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